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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/966,723	10/01/2001	Kazuhiko Koike	461-30	3620

7590 03/05/2003

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[REDACTED] EXAMINER

WRIGHT, WILLIAM G

[REDACTED] ART UNIT

[REDACTED] PAPER NUMBER

1754

DATE MAILED: 03/05/2003

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)
	09/966,723	KOIKE ET AL.
	Examiner	Art Unit
	William G. Wright SR.	1754

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on _____.
- 2a) This action is FINAL. 2b) This action is non-final.
- 3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) Claim(s) 1-41 is/are pending in the application.
 - 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) Claim(s) 1-41 is/are rejected.
- 7) Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner.

Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- 11) The proposed drawing correction filed on _____ is: a) approved b) disapproved by the Examiner.

If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.
- 12) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

- 13) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) All b) Some * c) None of:
 1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 14) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).
 - a) The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 15) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

1. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

2. Claims 1,11,20,21,25 and 31 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Farrauto '360. The claimed cell structure and gas flow passages of the instant invention are found in the reference.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

3. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

4. The factual inquiries set forth in *Graham v. John Deere Co.*, 383 U.S. 1, 148 USPQ 459 (1966), that are applied for establishing a background for determining obviousness under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) are summarized as follows:

1. Determining the scope and contents of the prior art.
2. Ascertaining the differences between the prior art and the claims at issue.
3. Resolving the level of ordinary skill in the pertinent art.
4. Considering objective evidence present in the application indicating obviousness or nonobviousness.

Art Unit: 1754

5. This application currently names joint inventors. In considering patentability of the claims under 35 U.S.C. 103(a), the examiner presumes that the subject matter of the various claims was commonly owned at the time any inventions covered therein were made absent any evidence to the contrary. Applicant is advised of the obligation under 37 CFR 1.56 to point out the inventor and invention dates of each claim that was not commonly owned at the time a later invention was made in order for the examiner to consider the applicability of 35 U.S.C. 103(c) and potential 35 U.S.C. 102(e), (f) or (g) prior art under 35 U.S.C. 103(a).

6. Claims 1-41 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable Strehlau et al. '904, or Farrauto et al. '360.

Strehlau et. al '904, discloses catalyst on carriers with flow channels, noted cell density, coating on the walls and the claimed pitch features in a regular array of a honeycomb support. Note Strehlau at col. 2 for flow channels and at claim 24 for a coating being on the walls of the flow channels. Strehlau differs from the claimed invention in the lack of the disclosure of the pitch of the cells, and the use of a corrugated surface. Strehlau does disclose at col. line 62 through col. 2 line 4 the relationship of the flow axis of the cells and how the cells are found in a regular array over the cross section of a honeycomb structure, thus reading on a pitch for the flow channels which may produce a shaped surface (eg. corrugations). The use of a corrugated surface, as is known in the art, is derived from Strehlau at col. 7 line 16 and following. Farrauto et. al '360, discloses catalyst on a carrier (cordierite col. 2 line 64), noted cell density and flow passages at col. 4, and coating on the walls of the cells in claim 13. For cross-sectional shape note col. 8 line 66, and col. 9 line 1 and following for a corrugated surface with an amplitude of the corrugations. Here alternating layers of flat and wave form plates of a suitable material is

Art Unit: 1754

however

noted. Farrauto et. al '360, lacks the disclosure for the pitch of the cells, the pitch of the cells can
be derived from the gas flow passages being defined at col. 8 line 65 through col. 9 line 4.

Each of the applied references is to catalyst with the same claimed structure containing
coated and shaped flow channels.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the
examiner should be directed to William G. Wright SR. whose telephone number is (703) 305-
7792. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday through Thursday; 6:30am to 5:00pm..

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's
supervisor, Stanley Silverman can be reached on (703) 308-3837. The fax phone numbers for
the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned are (703) 872-9310 for regular
communications and (703) 872-9311 for After Final communications.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding
should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 308-1495.


WGW

February 28, 2003



STEVEN BOS
PRIMARY EXAMINER
GROUP 1100